



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Saturday, September 20

Join California State Parks in California's Largest Volunteer Event – California Coastal Cleanup Day

SACRAMENTO - California State Parks is joining communities and organizations throughout California to participate in the 23rd Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 20.

California Coastal Cleanup Day, coordinated statewide by the California Coastal Commission, is one of the premier volunteer events in the country. On this day, 50,000 volunteers turn out to over 700 cleanup sites statewide to conduct what has been hailed by the Guinness Book of World Records as "the largest garbage collection" (1993). Since the program started in 1985, over 750,000 Californians have removed more than 12 million pounds of debris from our state's shorelines and coast. When combined with the International Coastal Cleanup, organized by [The Ocean Conservancy](http://www.oceanconservancy.org) and taking place on the same day, California Coastal Cleanup Day becomes part of one of the largest volunteer events of the year.

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>

California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman said, "This is a very special event, and we invite everyone to join us and participate in the largest volunteer event in California. We're proud of the volunteers who return year after year to help clean up our parks and beaches."

Once again, State Parks is participating with other agencies and corporate sponsors in this statewide program to demonstrate that environmental stewardship is everyone's responsibility. Because California State Parks is struggling with greatly reduced funding, it is particularly important for volunteers to participate in the cleanup endeavor this year. Ongoing maintenance is a major cost to the department throughout the state park system and volunteers can greatly assist in keeping parks clean during these hard times.

To emphasize the importance of community involvement in tackling the state's litter problem, all Californians are invited to organize and participate in cleanup campaigns in their

communities. Many of the activities are in conjunction with the California Coastal Commission's Coastal Cleanup Day program.

To participate, volunteers are asked to contact parks and beaches in their community or call the statewide coordinator of the event, the California Coastal Commission, at (800) COAST-4U or www.coastforyou.org.

For more information about the cleanup projects on-line, go to <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/>

Visit California State Parks on-line at www.parks.ca.gov

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